

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
29 March 2001 (29.03.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/22642 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: H04L (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DE (utility model), DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

(21) International Application Number: PCT/IL00/00591 (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(22) International Filing Date: 24 September 2000 (24.09.2000)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data: 60/155,568 24 September 1999 (24.09.1999) US

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): EX-ALINK LTD. [IL/IL]; Business Park, 85 Medinat Hayehudim Street, 46766 Herzeliya (IL).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): ZAROM, Rony [IL/IL]; 9 Rabbi Akiva, Herzeliya 46423 (IL). MIZRACHI, Yarom [IL/IL]; 62 Trumpeldor Street, Petach Tikva 49403 (IL).

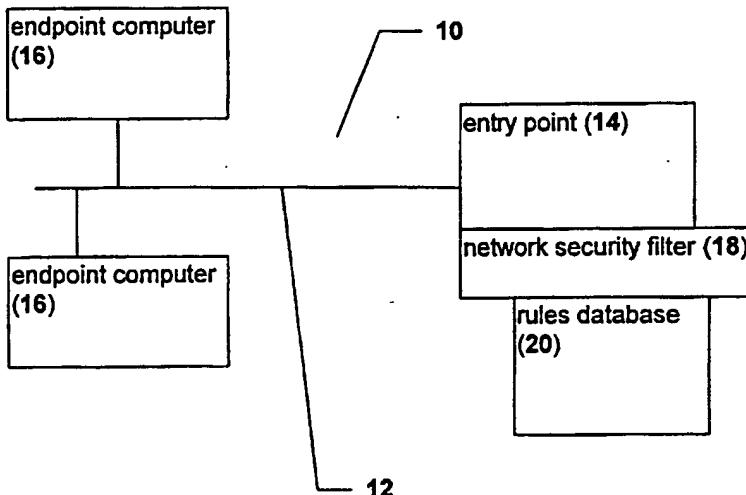
(74) Agent: PLINNER, Sa'ar; Beit Agish Ravad, 13 Noach Mozes Street, 67442 Tel Aviv (IL).

Published:

— *Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PRESORTING RULES FOR FILTERING PACKETS ON A NETWORK



(57) Abstract: A method and a system for presorting rules for filtering a packet in a network security filter according to a characteristic of the packet, preferably according to at least one of the source address and destination address. The advantage of presorting rules before application to the packet is that the number of rules which must be examined should be significantly reduced. In addition, the source address and/or destination address can be associated with a particular profile, which may be associated with a particular user for example. The rules are also more easily managed according to such profiles, since the network manager or system administrator can choose a set of rules for the profile, and then amend the profile as a whole, rather than attempting to apply disparate, unrelated rules for filtering. Thus, the method and system of the present invention are more efficient both for actual filtering of packets, and for management of the security network filter.

WO 01/22642 A2